



FALSE MEMORY SYNDROME FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2000 Vol. 9 No.5

Dear Friends,

As many of you who tried to reach the Foundation in late July discovered, we were unreachable. Frustratingly, telephone service was delayed for almost a week after our move. We apologize for any difficulties you may have experienced.

We are now up-and-running in our lovely new offices, occasionally even taking time to have a sandwich lunch in Rittenhouse Square while trying to hold on to the rapidly waning summer. Unfortunately, we appear to have lost our bookkeeper somewhere in the move, but we anticipate that business will continue smoothly as we look for a replacement. Thank you for your patience.

Along with the physical move, the Foundation has also been moving in the direction of the internet. According to Greg Louis, who so generously manages our site, the Foundation web site receives an average of 300 "hits" a day. A large number of these "hits" come from sources that are hosts to many computers so the actual number is likely much higher. We are aware of school students who have been given the site for their research. Developing resources for our web site must be a priority in the next year.

The FMS front has been relatively quiet during the summer. In the area of research, the August 17 issue of *Nature* contains a very important article about the instability of long-term memories of fearful events. At this time, it is indisputable that long-term memories can be easily altered or disrupted. (See p. 12) This information, however, is lost on psychologist John Read from New Zealand who has led a protest about the invitation of Elizabeth Loftus to be a fea-

tured speaker at the annual New Zealand Psychological Society meeting. Read declined an invitation to respond to Loftus and resigned his position in the society as a protest. It seems a time warp. (See p. 3).

In the legal area, there have been two appellate decisions again demonstrating the difficulty for parents to find some sort of accountability in the courts. The bright news is that the tables have turned in Wenatchee and many of those formerly imprisoned are now holding the city and the department of child welfare accountable. Readers will be glad to learn that a hearing has been scheduled in September by the Massachusetts Advisory Board of Pardons to discuss Gerald Amirault's request to have his sentence commuted. (See Legal Corner.)

The happiest news of the summer, however, has been the flow of letters from parents describing the return of their children. How did this happen? Parents provide three different explanations in the letters "From Our Readers." These letters, and the many others that do not appear in the newsletter, point to the desperate need for research in this area. What can be learned from families in the process of reconnecting that could be helpful to other families? What can be done to ease the paths for siblings who are resentful of the returner because of the hurt caused to the parents? What is it possible to do beyond what we have been doing to speed up the return of alienated offspring?

The Foundation is still here because there are still important jobs to finish. We look forward to continuing to work with you to accomplish what needs to be done.

Pamela

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS:

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Philadelphia, PA 19103-5766**

AND NEW PHONE NUMBERS

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*The next issue will be combined
November/December*

**Everyday Irrationality: How Pseudo-Scientists,
Lunatics, and the Rest of Us Systematically Fail to Be
Rational**, Westview Press, (to appear Spring 2001)

by Robyn Dawes

*With this newsletter issue, we begin a serialization of a chapter from
Robyn Dawes' new book.*

Sexual Abuse Hysteria (Chapter 9)

I begin this chapter by discussing a hypothetical nightmare. It is absurd. Nonetheless, the logic contained in it has led to some very real nightmares—especially for those accused on irrational bases of having sexually abused young children. In fact the irrationality and false beliefs illustrated in my hypothetical nightmare have resulted in a new form of horror that compliments the horror of actual child sexual abuse. That new form consists of widespread accusations, and occasional convictions, based on “expert” advice and testimony that often follow the simple principles of irrational probabilistic inference discussed elsewhere in this book.

Such irrational accusations are often justified in terms of a “natural” overzealousness resulting from our “increased awareness” of the prevalence of child sexual abuse—an awareness that has “let the pendulum swing just a bit too far.” Subsequently, the concern about this irrationality is often ascribed to a vague “backlash.” Irrationality and false beliefs are, however, unrelated to issues of real child sexual abuse. In fact, by clouding the whole issue with destructive nonsense, this recent irrationality may actually obstruct the clear understanding of true sexual abuse, an understanding that is necessary in order to diminish its extent. Unsupported accusations do not involve “two wrongs making a right,” because they have virtually nothing to do with punishing real abusers. They are indeed related to “vigilante justice”—but only to that justice when the vigilante determines who is guilty on the basis of ouija boards and tarot card readings.

But let me return to my nightmare. My hypothetical nightmare is based on an actual one I had as a child. My father and my great-uncle and I are walking along a dirt road by Lake Winnepesaukee to view the sunset across the long strip of that lake. When I look down, there are hundreds of toy cars swarming at our feet. They are all driven by puppet-like rats, reminiscent of the type of rats in animated versions of the Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite. Still being a very small boy (two or three—I can't remember which—at the time my great aunt and uncle visited us at Lake Winnepesaukee), I ask my father to carry me on one of his shoulders. He does, and I look away from the swarm of little cars with rats beneath us. The problem is, however, that if I do not stare at them they become larger and larger. So I have to keep looking. In contrast to my obsession with the little cars and their occupants, and my fear of them, both

my father and my great-uncle appear totally unconcerned. They are talking about the beauty of the sunset and about whether it is time to turn around and walk back to the cabin. I desperately want them to go back. But I didn't talk much anyway at that point in my life, so I don't express my fear to them.

When I tell my therapist about this dream, she appears to be intrigued by it. She asks me many times for the details I can recall and ends her inquiry each time with a reminder I associated the rats with bedtime and sleeping (unsurprisingly, given they occurred in a dream). Concerning what I originally thought was an unrelated issue, she also questions me about being a late talker. Wasn't it true that I understood what other people were saying perfectly well when I was two years old? (Yes.) So might not there have been some element of choice in my not talking at all until I was almost three and then not much until well past my third birthday? (Yes, I suppose that there could be.)

It takes her a while to suggest it. “Have you considered the possibility that the rats were not part of the dream but real — real rats sacrificed somewhere in a ritual and then placed in the bottom of your bed to terrify you?” “And could your late talking have resulted from swearing you to secrecy once you found out about such rituals? And threatening you with great physical harm if you ever told anyone?”

I know better than to say “that's absurd” to someone who's trained in Freudian analysis, because such a therapist will simply interpret such an assertion as confirmation of whatever is proposed. So instead I try humor. “You mean I was afraid to let the rat out of the bag, so to speak?”

My therapist does not laugh. Instead she points out how often it is that I try to use humor as a defense mechanism supporting denial. But then the very next session she returns to the rats in the bed. “I want you to try to imagine very vividly what the rats would have looked like—if, of course, they were actually there in your bed.” I describe gray and white rats with their throats slit and a deep knife wound in their chest clear down through their sex organs. I don't imagine blood on the bed, just on the rats—which my therapist points out would occur only if the rats had been sacrificed sometime earlier. We spend about ten minutes of several sessions with my imagining in a more and more vivid way what the rats may have looked like at the bottom of my bed.

(Continued on page 12)

special thanks

We extend a very special “Thank you” to all of the people who help prepare the FMSF Newsletter. *Editorial Support:* Toby Feld, Allen Feld, Janet Fetkewicz, Howard Fishman, Peter Freyd. *Columnists:* August Piper, Jr. and Members of the FMSF Scientific Advisory Board. *Letters and information:* Our Readers.

Two FMSF Advisors Voted Top Skeptics

We were pleased to read about some FMSF advisors in *Skeptical Inquirer Magazine*.

"In a century filled with UFO sightings, psychic claims, doomsday prophecies, quack therapies, pseudoscientific gadgetry, conspiracy claims, New Age spiritualism, and paranormal mystery-mongering, which individuals rank as the ten outstanding skeptics of the last one hundred years? Who are the brightest champions of science and reason-exposing deception, uncovering fraud, identifying nonsense, and solving so-called 'mysteries'?"

"*Skeptical Inquirer* magazine polled those who should know best: the Fellows and Consultants of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal (CSICOP), an international organization of scientists and scholars that has tracked the paranormal and the pseudoscientific for the past 23 years. Nominations could be chosen from any combination of science, scholarship, writing, public education, outreach, investigation, activism, leadership, or other qualities. The only restriction was that the individual's major contributions have been made in the twentieth century."

The top two skeptics are FMSF Advisors James Randi and Martin Gardner. Two other advisors, Fred Crews and Elizabeth Loftus, while not among the top ten, are mentioned as having been in the running.

James Randi - A skeptical investigator of paranormalists like spoonbender Uri Geller and televangelist Peter Popoff, Randi combines a mastery of conjuring skills, an irrepressible energy, a sharp critical intelligence, and a fine understanding of science to expose fraud, deception, and flim-flam wherever it arises. Randi's lectures and television appearances have entertainingly educated audiences worldwide about the differences between genuine

science and pseudoscience, the methods of psychic claimants, and the pitfalls of self-deception and gullibility.

Martin Gardner - His first book published nearly a half-century ago, *Fads and Fallacies in the Name of Science*, influenced and informed generations of scholars and future skeptics, and became a classic. Essentially an independent scholar but without academic trappings, the polymathic Gardner keeps tabs on all kinds of topics and issues in mathematics, science, philosophy, and religion, not to mention the fads and foibles of paranormalists, fringe scientists, quacks, and pseudoscientists. For three decades he wrote the popular "Mathematical Games" column for *Scientific American*, and has written for *Skeptical Inquirer* since its inception, with his "Notes of a Fringe Watcher" column appearing in every issue since 1983. He followed *Fads and Fallacies* with later books about pseudoscience and fringe science, including *Science: Good, Bad, and Bogus; The New Age; On the Wild Side; and Weird Water and Fuzzy Logic*.



Reminder of Montreal 1993

David McLoughlin

"Academics in sex abuse row," *The Dominion*, August 5, 2000

In November 1993, Harold Lief, M.D. was invited to speak about the FMS problem at McGill University in Montreal. That talk never took place. A group of protesters were so disruptive that Dr. Lief could not speak. University of Ottawa psychologist Connie Kristiansen, Ph.D. described her participation in an article called "Bearing Witness to the Patriarchal Revictimization of Survivors."

In July of this year, a bitter dispute erupted in New Zealand over the invitation of Elizabeth Loftus to be a keynote speaker at the New Zealand Psychological Society annual conference. John Read, Ph.D. a senior lecturer

in Auckland University's psychology department, has resigned in protest because the society refused to revoke its invitation to Loftus. Dr. Read declined an offer of a full hour after the talk to respond to comments by Loftus.

In a comment, Read stated, "Elizabeth Loftus has shown that memory is fallible, which is useful, but it's gone beyond that. She argues long-term memory is fallible. That's not true. Adult memories of childhood are quite robust."

Editor's Comment: Dr. Read could benefit from reading "Altering of Reported Experience by Offer et al." The scientific evidence points strongly to the unreliability of long-term memory.

1. Connie Kristiansen, "Bearing Witness to the Patriarchal Revictimization of Survivors," *SWAP*, 20(2) CPA.

2. Offer et al "Altering of Reported Experiences" *J Am Academy Child and Adoles Psych* 39 (6) June, 2000, pp. 735-742



Colorado Therapist Loses License

Jeremy Meyer

Colorado Springs Gazette, June 23, 2000

After a six-month investigation by the Colorado Mental Health Board, counselor Laura Hardie surrendered her license to practice. State investigators concluded Hardie, age 56, had misdiagnosed her client's psychological condition, provided inappropriate treatment and practiced outside her training and competence, all violations of the Colorado mental health laws.

Regulators were alerted to this case by the ex-husband of one of Hardie's clients. The husband said that his wife had turned to the counselor because she felt shy and depressed. While in the care of Hardie, his wife came to believe that she was a high priestess in the Illuminati cult, that she had witnessed child sacrifices and that she had a twin who will reappear some day. She also believes that the cult classified her as a "Black Widow" who will be sent to have sex with Christian ministers in 2002. The wife left her

five-year-old daughter and husband and fled to a "safe" house in Michigan.

Amos Martinez, administrator for the state Mental Health Board stated that Hardie "treated this person as if the memories were accurate and contributed to her further mental deterioration." Hardie has a master's degree in counseling from Colorado Christian University and began a private practice in 1990. In February of this year, she had 12 clients, four of whom claim that they suffered Satanic Ritual Abuse. The state is attempting to get an injunction to bar Hardie from beginning a ministry.

Editor's Comment: This license action is especially interesting because the complaint was brought by a third-party.



Washington Psychologist Suspended

Associated Press Newswires October 8, 1999

The Washington State Examining Board of Psychology suspended the license of Everett psychologist Monte L. Scott in October, 1999 after determining that "Scott's continued practice of psychology created an immediate danger to the public."

In court papers filed in connection with the original criminal investigation, a woman alleged Scott diagnosed her with multiple personality disorder, told her the problem was rooted in childhood sexual abuse, and led her to engage in sexual acts while telling her she needed to resolve her feelings about sex in order to get better.

Scott was arrested in July of 1999 after two of his patients told police he engaged in sexual acts as part of their treatment. One of Scott's patients has also filed a civil lawsuit against him.

"It has become widely accepted by psychotherapists that a patient's narrative of her past is constructed in the present and therefore necessarily influenced by it. The remembered past is in constant flux."

Anna Fels, M.D., "Sorting out delusions in therapy," *New York Times*, July 4, 2000.

The Primacy of Early Experience: A Critique, an Alternative, and Some Clinical Implications

Joel Paris, M.D.

Journal of Psychiatric Practice,
May 2000, Vol. 6 pp. 147-152

Many recovered memory proponents claim that any person who has been sexually abused is doomed to a lifetime of negative consequences. This article examines the evidence for the concept that early childhood experience plays a centrally important role in psychological development. The author finds that the evidence does not support this assumption, noting that children are resilient to a wide range of adverse events and that the cumulative effect of adverse experiences is more important than the timings. The author offers an alternative model based on interactions between an individual's temperament and childhood experiences and then presents some clinical implications of the model.



News From England

"Hidden" Memories Surfaced After Reading *Courage to Heal*

David Williams

Daily Mail (London), June 8, 2000

After a six-day trial, Philip Shaw, a senior lecturer at the Royal College of Art, was cleared of sexual abuse charges after a jury learned that the person accusing him was likely influenced by the book *Courage to Heal*.

In 1992, a 27-year-old woman accused Shaw of sexual and physical abuse between 1978 and 1979 after she had become suicidal following the break up of a relationship with someone else and after reading the book *The Courage to Heal*.

According to defense expert Dr. Janet Boakes of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, the two psychologists who interviewed the woman had taken the case on face value and did not follow the guidelines outlined by the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

A Father's Fight

Lynn Cochrane

Sunday Times (London), May 28, 2000

In the first case of its kind in England, Jim Fairlie, a former government leader under Gordon Wilson from 1981 to 1985, is suing the National Health Service and social services who treated his daughter for defamation, negligence and personal injury. Fairlie brought his action in 1998, but he has yet to see a courtroom and has already spent tens of thousands of dollars. He stated that his wife and he are "going to see this thing through even if it means selling everything and going bankrupt. It's the only way to make these people take responsibility."

A year before Fairlie's daughter Katrina confronted her parents in 1995, she had been admitted to the hospital to have her appendix removed, but the doctors found nothing wrong with her. When her pain continued, doctors believed that the symptoms were psychosomatic and admitted her to a psychiatric unit of Perth's Moray Royal Hospital. She was treated with mind-altering drugs, hypnosis and prolonged interviews, techniques since condemned by the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Katrina deteriorated rapidly. She was encouraged to talk about nightmares which turned to hallucinations and she finally tried to commit suicide. Katrina came to believe that her father had raped her and beaten to death another six-year-old girl. She thought he was involved in a pedophile ring with 17 other men, including two MPs.

Katrina's accusations split the family and the rift began to heal only after it became obvious to family members and the police that her claims never happened. By 1996, Katrina also realized that her accusations were false and she is pursuing her own civil action against the authorities.



News From Netherlands

Dutch TV network NCRV accused of libel.

Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant, 17 August 2000
(translation Adriaan Mak)

The family of a woman, who was a principal female participant in the TV documentary "Hidden Mothers," has brought an action of libel against the NCRV network. This program, broadcast in June, made the claim that a woman, "Annemarie," was a victim of incest. Family members were not given a chance to respond. The family's attorney states that the program "inferred a damaging accusation of incest."

In addition to the action against the TV network, the family has also brought suits against Annemarie and her therapist, says the family's attorney, Veraart. The therapist maintained that his client had "recovered" hitherto hidden memories of incest.

Family members of "Jaqueline," who was the principal subject in another installment of "Hidden Mothers" have also taken legal action. They want to have the editors of the program questioned under oath.



Psychotherapy or Tutoring?

Children at a public school in a poor neighborhood in Nashville, Tennessee who had problems that included delinquency, aggression, hyperactivity, depression, and anxiety participated in a controlled test of traditional child psychotherapy as commonly practiced in clinics and schools. Half of the children received tutoring and the other half received therapy from psychologists, social workers, or nurses. The outcome of treatment was based on the three problems the child's parents thought were the most urgent.

According to the June *Harvard Mental Health Letter*, researchers were disappointed that there was no difference between the groups. Therapists had thought that forty percent of the children were successfully treated after two years, but these children also showed no more improvement than the students who were tutored.

(The report does not mention if there was any difference in academic performance.)

The *Harvard Mental Health Letter*, June 2000 p. 7 reporting on Weiss B, et al. "The Effectiveness of Traditional Child Psychotherapy," *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology* (1999), Vol 67, No. 1 pp. 82-94.



What disturbs people's minds is not events but judgments on events."

Epictetus, 500 B.C. Stoic Greek Philosopher

L E G A L

C O R N E R

FMSF Staff

Pennsylvania Supreme Court Rules Psychiatrist Has No Obligation to Parents

Althaus v Cohen No 70 W.D. Appeal Dkt. 1998, No. 71 W.D. Appeal Dkt. 1998, Sup Ct Pa Aug. 22, 2000 Decided, (2000 Pa. LEXIS 2017)

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled that a psychiatrist had no obligation to Richard and Cheryl Althaus, the parents of a teen-age patient who accused and later recanted her accusations of abuse.

The Althaus parents will forfeit \$213,000 that they won in December 1994 in a lawsuit against psychiatrist Judith Cohen and Pennsylvania Western Psychiatric Institute. The award to the daughter remains, however.

In 1991, Nicole Althaus sued her parents in a bizarre story of ritual sex abuse after recovering memories. Both Althaus parents were arrested, the mother in front of her elementary school class. Ms. Althaus later retracted her story. (See FMSF newsletter May 21, 1992, Vol. 1 (5) at www.memoryandreality.org for the full story.

Lawyers for the Althaus couple see no realistic way of appealing the Pennsylvania Supreme Court decision.



Judge Throws Out Franklin Case Against Prosecutors

Franklin vs. Fox, No. C 97-2443 CRB, 1000 U.S. Dist. (July 19, 2000, LEXIS 10100U.S.

District Judge Charles R. Breyer threw out most of the malicious prosecution lawsuit brought by George Franklin against prosecutors and detectives in San Mateo, California. Franklin had been convicted in 1990 of murdering his daughter's friend in 1969. The only evidence in the trial were the recovered memories of Franklin's daughter.

Franklin was released from prison in 1996 after a federal judge said that the trial had been riddled with errors. Prosecutors did not retry Franklin after his release because they learned that Franklin's daughter, Eileen Franklin Lipsker, had falsely accused her father of a second murder, and also that her memories had been recovered with the use of hypnosis.

All that remains of the suit is Franklin's claim that his daughter conspired to have a therapist give false testimony.

Franklin's attorneys at Riordan and Rosenthal in San Francisco vow to appeal the ruling.

Jason Hoppin, *The Recorder*, (American Lawyer Media) July 20, 2000
Bob Egelko, "Judge dismisses most of freed prisoner's civil suit," *San Francisco Examiner*, July 20, 2000.



Wisconsin Appeals Court Blocks False-Memory Lawsuit

Johnson v Rogers Memorial Hospital No. 98-0445, Wisc Ct. Appeals, Dist 4, July 13, 2000 (2000 Wisc. App.LEXIS 642)

In a 2-1 decision, the Wisconsin 4th District Court of Appeals decided that Charles and Karen Johnson may not sue the psychologist of their estranged daughter because the daughter will not waive her right to keep her records confidential. The court stated that the daughter's rights to keep her records confidential outweigh her parents' interest in being compensated for their claimed injuries.

The Johnsons wanted to sue three psychologists for emotional injuries they suffered after their daughter accused them of abuse.

In a dissent, Judge Charles Dykman noted that "it is a dangerous practice for judges to guess what a plaintiff may or may not be able to prove at trial, and to dismiss cases that they predict cannot be proven."

William Smoler, attorney for the Johnsons, said that he would appeal the decision. He noted that he was "not worried about being able to prove even without medical records that these were false memories that came out during medical therapy."

Cary Segall, "False-memory lawsuit blocked by appeals court," *Wis State Journal*, July 14, 2000.



South Carolina Supreme Court Says Repressed Memory Can Be Basis for Suit

Moriarty v Garden Sanctuary Church, No. 25156 SC Sup Ct, June 26, 2000, filed (1000 S.C. LEXIS 149)

In a unanimous decision, the Supreme Court of South Carolina said that repressed memory can be a basis to recover damages for sexual abuse that occurred when the victim was a child.

In 1995, a woman sued Garden Sanctuary Church to recover damages for sexual abuse she allegedly suffered as a child between the ages of two and four in the church's day care center. She said the memory was triggered by counseling and by her nursing school classes.

The justices affirmed a state Appeals Court decision and said that alleged victims must present "independently verifiable, objective evidence" to back up their claims. The justices expressed no opinions about the merits of the suit or the validity of the woman's claims of repressed memory. The case will now be heard in a lower court.

"Therapy can easily fail to face up to the reality of sin in our lives. When therapy replaces faith and when therapeutic techniques are seen as the total answer to humanity's deepest needs and longings, another idolatry is introduced."

Dr. George Carey, Archbishop of Canterbury, July 31, 2000, Amsterdam. (Reported in *The Times* (UK) August 1, 2000)

Child Welfare Workers Liable for Negligence

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, June 16, 2000, Mike Barber
Tyner v The State of Washington Department of Social and Health Services, Child Protective Services

No. 67602, Supreme Court of Washington, June 15, 2000, Filed. 2000 Wash. LEXIS 387

On June 15, the Washington Supreme Court ruled that Child Protective Services social workers can be sued for mishandled, negligent investigations. In a 6-3 decision, the justices said that "CPS owes a duty of care to a child's parents, even those suspected of abusing their own children, when investigating allegations of child abuse." The ruling overturned a 1997 Court of Appeals decision and reinstated a \$201,500 jury verdict against the Department of Social and Health Services.

In 1993, David Tyner III was accused by his wife of molesting his then 4-year-old daughter. The Tyner's were in the process of divorce and no abuse was found, but CPS still barred Tyner from seeing his children for four months. Tyner sued, noting the failure of CPS to investigate or disclose information that could have helped Tyner.

This case has been watched closely by lawyers representing the 15 lawsuits pending in Wenatchee brought by people who had been caught up in the wave of accusations and trials in 1995.



Wenatchee Update:

A federal court has ruled that social workers who interviewed Wenatchee children leading to the conviction of Robert Devereaux did not violate his civil rights. The 9th U.S. Circuit of Appeals in San Francisco said that although the police and social workers may have used questionable interview methods, Devereaux failed to show that they should have known they were acting improperly. In a strongly worded dissent, Judge Kleinfeld said "that coercing witnesses to lie to support accusations against a person would deprive the victim of a clearly established constitutional right to fair procedure, that is due process."

Mike Barber, "A court rules on rights in sex case," *Seattle Post Intelligencer*,

Henry Cunningham has sued the city of Wenatchee and the state Department of Social and Health Services for more than \$10 million. Cunningham, who was once labeled by a judge as the worst child molester in the history of the state of Washington, was released from prison in March of 1999 after the state Court of Appeals overturned his conviction. Cunningham had been represented by a public defender who never investigated his case and told him that he had no choice but to plead guilty. Glenn Draper, Cunningham's current lawyer has stated, "We want Chelan County to modify how they go about obtaining indigent defense. It's not

good enough to go out and hire the low bidder."

Stephen Maher, "Sex-case figure asks for more than \$10 million," *Wenatchee World*, July 17, 2000.

Ralph Gausvik was released from prison on June 29, 2000 on the order of Superior Court Judge Wallis Friel. Robert Rosenthal, the New York City lawyer for Gausvik, commented that the 1995 trial had been marked by police lies, bogus medical evidence and a public defender's failure to aid his client. "[The jury] were shown a case with no defense."

Stephen Maher, "Gausvik latest to be freed by another prison release," *Wenatchee World*, June 29, 2000.

Sarah Doggett's lawsuit against a former Child Protective Services social worker and Detective Bob Perez, scheduled for trial in August, has been postponed for several months, however, due to the injuries suffered by Perez in a horseback riding accident. Doggett, now 21-years-old, claims she was tied to a gurney at a state office and was driven to an Idaho mental hospital where she was given drugs and pressured to implicate her parents. Doggett has repeatedly denied being abused by her parents.

Stephen Maher, "Perez injury delays trial," *Wenatchee World*, August 3, 2000.

Randall N. Reed, who spent five years in prison, is suing the city of Wenatchee and the state for \$2 million, claiming he was wrongfully convicted. He claims he was subjected to a negligent investigation, false arrest and imprisonment, malicious prosecution, emotional distress and defamation.

A total of 43 people were arrested in Wenatchee during the 1994-95 child sex-abuse investigations. Twenty-six of those were convicted of felonies. In 1997, Barry Scheck, the originator of the Innocence Project, offered a deal to professors at the University of Washington who were trying to get him to speak in Seattle. He agreed he would come, but only if the professors

would consider starting an Innocence Project on the West Coast. Because of the efforts of this project, almost all of those convicted have now been released and are attempting to hold the authorities accountable. The scope of the Wenatchee wrongful convictions is unprecedented in Washington and perhaps in the country.

Stephen Maher, "Tipping the Wenatchee scales," *Wenatchee World*, August 13, 2000.



Release Hearing for Gerald Amirault

A public hearing has been scheduled for September by the Massachusetts Advisory Board of Pardons to discuss Gerald Amirault's having his sentence commuted.

Amirault has served 14 years in prison after his conviction in the notorious Fells Acres Day Care case. Amirault's mother, Violet (who died in 1997) and his sister Cheryl LeFave, convicted in the same case, were released in 1995 after new evidence about children's suggestibility was provided.

After the Advisory Board of Pardons hears Amirault's petition, it makes a written recommendation to Governor Paul Cellucci, who has the power to grant or deny commutation. The governor's recommendation must then be ratified by the Governor's Council.

Amirault's attorney, James Sultan, stated that although the Supreme Judicial Court had "slammed the door in our face every time," Amirault's pursuit of freedom is "winning in the court of public opinion." He said the public feels that there is "something just rotten to the core about this case and these convictions."

Sacha Pfeiffer, "Amirault will get a release hearing," *Boston Globe*, 8/22/00

Letters can be sent to:

Michael J. Pomarole, Chairman
Advisory Board of Pardons, Suite 300
27-43 Wormwood Street
Boston, MA 02210:



THE VERIFICATION PRINCIPLE

Allen Feld

"At this point it is impossible, without other corroborative evidence, to distinguish a true memory from a false one."

American Psychological Association *Questions and Answers about Memories of Childhood Sexual Abuse*, 1995.

The recognition that verification is necessary to authenticate the accuracy of a memory is neither a recent idea nor a new principle. Therapists should have been exposed to this truth early in their education. The quote above was chosen from the many similar admonitions made by professional organizations because the APA statement uses the word "memory" without the limiting phrase "child sexual abuse."

The call for verification to assess the accuracy of a memory applies to recollections reported in therapy. A recent *New York Times* column by psychiatrist Dr. Anna Fels reinforces this proposition and its application to all of psychotherapy. Dr. Fels wrote: *It has been widely accepted by psychotherapists that a patient's narrative of her past is constructed in the present and therefore influenced by it. The remembered past is in constant flux.*¹ It is reasonable to wonder how the false memory/accusation epidemic ever occurred if this thinking were adhered to in the practice of psychotherapy.

An article by Offer² and his colleagues described in the July/August FMSF Newsletter further supports questioning the accuracy of recollections. The inconsistent recall of 48-year-olds about their adolescent perceptions adds to the significant scientific support underscoring the need for verification in order to know if a client's story is accurate. Offer and the other researchers felt so strongly about the uncertainty of the accuracy of memory that they included this caution among the clinical implications of their study: *Psychiatrists need to remember*

that inaccurate memories can be costly and dangerous and can lead to faulty conclusions and inaccurate diagnoses. (p. 741).

I cringe whenever the word "memory" is used to describe a product created in therapy, preferring the word "narrative" used by Dr. Fels. Referring to the interactions between therapist and patient as "memories" is imprecise at best. It is known that dreams do not necessarily depict real events. Similarly, therapists should know that the therapeutically created narrative could be equally flawed and not an accurate depiction of reality.

The influence that a therapist plays in the creation of a narrative has been recognized in the literature for decades. Therapists' influences take various forms. They may be intentional or unintentional, direct or indirect, explicit or implicit, or verbal as well as non-verbal.

A narrative may be significant to a client regardless of its accuracy, and none of the cautions that are offered about its reality should detract from that. Even a slight attitudinal or behavioral change by a patient may create changes in her relations with others. If a patient seems to be altering her behavior in a manner that can have potentially negative ramifications to her or to others, however, the therapist must demonstrate concern for the accuracy. A possible mechanism to indicate this concern is to discuss early, and review as necessary, the widely accepted knowledge that neither of them can know the accuracy of the report without verification. When the incidents produced in therapy describe criminal acts, the authenticity of the narrative becomes even more critical.

A hypothetical situation may explain this point. One spouse (A) enters therapy. For this example, the other spouse (B) feels there is no need to be seen by the therapist. During the therapy, A describes situations claimed to be examples of B's lack of support.

The supposedly non-supportive situations are described in detail and may be fleshed out by questions, non-verbal indications and comments from the therapist. (However, if B were present or were asked about these situations, it would not be surprising to hear completely different versions and evaluations of these same incidents.)

Overlooking the subjective conclusion about the lack of support, how accurate are the descriptions of the events? How could a therapist possibly even know? Would others describe the events similarly and define them as non-supportive? (The latter entails reaching subjective conclusions.) A believes both the accuracy and the resulting "non-support" of these events. Furthermore, A regards these incidents as important. If A starts behaving based on this belief, it is possible that there may be no problems. It is also conceivable that harm can result for both A and B as well as for other family members. If the therapist communicates either verbally or non-verbally the belief that the incidents are factual, as opposed to recognizing the reality of the unhappiness that the patient is expressing and experiencing, added difficulties can be created for the patient as well as for others. Additionally, if the therapist makes judgments about B, even unintentionally, and those judgments are communicated to A, this could result in a worsening family situation. Without verification, how is it possible for a therapist to determine the accuracy of these narratives? It serves the patient well for the therapist to make clear to A from the onset of therapy the limitations of their work together.

While the demand for verification is a necessity when the situation involves "recovered memories" of sexual abuse or other crimes, it may serve us well to bear in mind that the veracity of all clinical narratives cannot be assumed without corroboration.

Someone once said to me that as

long as the narrative (or therapeutically created memory) remains in the therapist's office, that was acceptable. This might be an appropriate comment for many therapeutic purposes. However, it is not acceptable if unverified events lead to negative changes in patients' lives and the lives of family members. I believe there is more merit in helping patients learn to live with ambiguity and uncertainty. After all, shouldn't therapists try to help patients deal with the uncertainty that people often face in their lives?

1. Fels, A. "Sorting out delusions in therapy," *New York Times*, July 4, 2000.

2. Offer et al "Altering of Reported Experiences" *J Am Academy Child and Adolescent Psych* 39 (6) June, 2000, pp. 735-742

Allen Feld is Director of Continuing Education for the FMS Foundation. He has retired from the faculty of the School of Social Work at Marywood University in Pennsylvania.

Absence Therapy: Killing Two Birds with One Stone

N. Renay Tanner

Journal of Irreproducible Results
Vol 35 (2) p. 22

The author of the satirical "Absence Therapy" notes that it is "widely known that drug holidays frequently improve the physical and mental well-being of patients by decreasing the possibility of toxic side effects from their medications," and goes on to point out that it is not quite so well-known that "holidays away from a patient's therapist" improve the well-being of both patient and therapist. She proposed that formalizing "absence therapy" would bring about a decrease in iatrogenic psychiatric illness, but the therapist's income would be unlimited. The therapist would charge each patient a fee for each day that the therapist does not see the patient. Resistant patients will get traditional therapy until they realize that writing "a check to the therapist is the therapy."

Recovered Memory Brings Needless Agony

by Norm Williams

Culpeper News, March 30, 2000

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Thousands of fathers and mothers, grandfathers and grandmothers, uncles and aunts in America and throughout the world know from personal experience the torment school coach Ronald Heller and his wife were put through recently.

With an unblemished record of over 32 years as a teacher and coach, Heller suddenly found himself in the principal's office at the Roberto Clemente Middle School in Germantown, suspended and required to leave the premises within 15 minutes.

The Washington Post reports he had been accused by some students. Six girls and a boy (only two known to him) charged him with fondling and taking indecent liberties with them.

It took a month for the police to determine the kids were lying. A couple of them were sore at Heller for one reason or another and drew the others into the scheme to get back at him.

Mind you, these conniving youngsters were not children of low-income, inner city, single-parent homes. They were straight-A students, apparently with loving parents. They not only put this poor man through an emotional wringer, they nearly destroyed him.

Restored to his job and heaped with praise, Heller is doing his best to pick up the pieces of his life. Whether he can ever erase the awful shock from his ordeal remains an open question.

What happened to this teacher is like what many parents and relatives of no-longer-young children have experienced upon being abruptly confronted with "recovered memories" of sexual abuse that supposedly occurred 30 or 40 years before.

But the short-lived devastation engulfing Heller was nothing compared to the years of agony such people suffer

when false charges are made by offspring they have loved and nurtured, who they had assumed enjoyed normal, if not blissful, childhoods.

In many cases the accusing child finally comes to his senses, retracting the charge and reconciliation takes place. But in other cases, tragically, the accused dies prior to such an outcome. The effects throughout families are always destructive.

These "recovered memories" practically never crop up spontaneously. They are induced during psychotherapeutic treatment, or alternatively, through the influence of a book entitled *The Courage to Heal* by Laura Davis and Ellen Bass.

Mental-health practitioners, backed by the American Psychological Association (APA), believe a wide range of common ailments is always caused by childhood sexual abuse—even where the patient has absolutely no recollection of any such abuse.

Typically the patient is manipulated into believing he or she has a history of childhood sexual abuse perpetrated by a family member. No attempt is made to find corroborative evidence. Nor is any effort taken to consult with the family.

Indeed, the patient is deliberately isolated from the family; not only from the parents but also from spouse and children. Becoming wholly dependent upon the practitioner, the patient often declines into hospitalization and even suicide.

Healing is only possible, the practitioner insists, through confronting the "guilty" family member—usually the father. In fact, there are many instances in which the patient has been urged to sue the accused family member in order to collect damages.

For an accused person, such a fate precipitates disaster. In the renowned Ramona case, the father lost his job and his wife divorced him in the aftermath of his daughter's accusation.

However, Ramona marked a turnaround by the courts. He sued and won

damages from the psychiatrist. Increasingly, judges will not accept "recovered memory" as being scientifically valid.

Though discredited, this voodoo psychology is still foisted on unsuspecting patients by practitioners (an insightful review appears in a recent book, *Creating Hysteria*, by Joan Acocella).

The organization trying to bring sanity into all this chaos is the False Memory Syndrome Foundation of Philadelphia, PA. Supported by a panel of eminent professionals in the field, it is making some headway; but the APA is extremely resistant to change.

Now imagine, if you will, that the Germantown students who falsely accused Ronald Heller had first gone to the school counselor with their problem. And imagine he identified the cause as sexual abuse by their teacher—even though they had no memory of any such sexual abuse. And imagine the counselor told them the only solution was to charge Heller with that crime.

And imagine that the counselor, in encouraging the students to make these false charges (never having conferred with Heller) had the full approval of the American Psychological Association.

It's not hard to imagine the resulting public outcry, or the pressure on the APA to change its policies in this regard. Yet, paradoxically, the APA appears to be under no such constraint to abandon its endorsement of the "recovered memory" insanity.

Until the American Psychological Association (as well as the American Psychiatric Association) follows the lead of its counterpart organization in England by repudiating once and for all the poisonous doctrine of "recovered memories," American families will continue to be torn apart, traumatized, and forced to endure protracted, totally needless agony.

Norm Williams is a regular columnist for the *Culpeper News*.



A Question

Having followed the FMS phenomenon for ten years, both as a parent and as part of my work as an analyst of benefit plans and malpractice litigation, I have a question:

What is the relationship between the largely well-educated women treated in recovered memory programs and these same women living at the margins of society, if not in poverty, years afterward? And why does this pattern differ from other women who received traditional long-term outpatient therapy, including treatment for sexual abuse?

Clinical treatment for recovered memories was primarily directed to women with generous medical plans. In the early to mid 1990s, the cost to provide longer term outpatient mental health care was approximately \$2,500. The cost for women undergoing treatment for recovered memories was much higher, often exceeding \$10,000.

I would like to share some observations:

1. Treatment of women for recovered memories was directed to patients with very generous benefit plans. This diagnosis was rarely found on plans with more restrictive outpatient mental health benefits.
2. The women are largely well-educated.
3. The women about whom I have information appear to live very marginal lives years after their participation in this therapy. In spite of excellent educations, advanced degrees and uncommon resources, they live on the fringe of society, often in outright poverty. Those who are not on the margins live lives of uncommon instability, both personally and professionally.
4. These characteristics are not found among other patients receiving longer term out-patient mental health

care, including care for sexual abuse.

When our daughter entered this treatment program in 1991, the cost was enormous, and substantial sums were not covered by our very generous benefit plan. She was an honors student at two leading universities, obtaining an advanced degree in a field offering exceptional career opportunities, and was highly successful. She entered treatment for recovered memories and withdrew, refocusing her life around a group of other women in the same program, and terminating contact with her family—including her grandparents and two very young siblings. She seeks jobs that do not pay well, saying she is not greedy for material things. Her life revolves around people who describe themselves as "victims."

I pose my question again: What is the relationship between well-educated women treated in recovered memory programs and these same women living at the margins of society, if not in poverty, years afterward? And why does this pattern differ from other women who received traditional long-term outpatient therapy, including treatment for sexual abuse?

A Dad

What Is Being Done?

What is being done to help those girls who fell victim to FMS? We have not seen nor heard from our daughter for the past three years except for an occasional card with profanity on it that is so horrible that the post office encloses it in an envelope.

Apparently our daughter has moved to another doctor. We have no idea who this might be but must assume that she is still being treated for her memories of rape and is under the effect of too many prescribed drugs.

Is there any hope for families such as ours? Our state medical board refuses to consider the problem because she is over eighteen. They say that they do not have the authority to request her

medical records except with her approval.

A Dad

Left Hanging

On page 11 of your July/August FMSF newsletter, A Dad writes: "I came up with a patient plan to figure out how I could be reunited with my daughter and her family." He says "It finally worked. We are now in loving communication..."

The omission of his plan, or what worked, from the report is truly painful. What could be more frustrating for us than to report that something worked and then fail to share the secret with the rest of us? Please.

Dave Hunter

It Finally Registered

I just received a phone call from my son stating that he is retracting all his accusations of incest.

I have had some contact with my accusing son for almost two years now. The first contact came as a result of the birth of my first grandchild.

My son, however, was never willing to discuss his accusations, one of which was that I had anally raped him when he was at the age of 20 months. From others, I heard, however, that he had begun to doubt his recovered memories which over the course of therapy also included memories of ritual abuse, something I never knew.

I asked my son what the first thing was that had triggered his recent doubt. His answer: "When changing my daughter's diapers, I realized that anal penetration of a 20-month-old baby, if at all possible, would cause such considerable laceration, bleeding, scarring and lasting damage, that it could not have gone unnoticed."

I had told my son the same thing nine years ago when he first accused me, but it did not register then until he saw so for himself.

A Dad

Dear FMSF,

For nine and one-half years we had not seen our daughter, but one day I came home to find a message on our answering machine saying that she was coming East with her two daughters and would like to see us. She asked if a day the next week would suit us and gave us her phone number and e-mail address.

I e-mailed our schedule back immediately but told her the most important thing in the world was for us to see her and we would make any changes necessary to suit her schedule. She accepted the day we had chosen and called a few days before it to set the time. She said she would come for an hour or two.

Around the appointed time, the doorbell rang and standing at our door was our daughter and her two beautiful blond daughters, aged four and seven, as well as her mother-in-law with whom she was staying. I opened my arms and hugged my long lost daughter and afterwards she introduced her girls to her father and me. (Her mother-in-law had long worked as best she could for this reconciliation.) We had presents for each grandchild which pleased them. We also happened to have birds nesting on our balcony that so excited the girls they even went right into our arms to be lifted to see the eggs.

My husband said that the visit was as if she had lived across the country for a while and was finally getting back home. It seemed cautious but not uneasy as one would expect. When I said how much one of her daughters looked like her, my daughter even said to them "This is MY mommy." They stayed for almost four hours and when they left we hugged and kissed again.

Since then we have received a Mother's Day card that said "Have a happy day" and a Father's Day card that said pretty much the same thing. Nothing really meaningful, but she has thanked us for an anniversary check so

I know she is trying. Whether we will ever get to a sharing, close relationship again, only God knows. Of course no mention was made of anything that has happened since we last saw her all those years ago. But her father and I are very thankful that she has opened the door as only she could. She is a continent away so real effort has to be made to have closeness. Our son and his wife, also on the West Coast, invited her and her family for Thanksgiving with us and other West Coast relatives, but she said they couldn't make it. Who knows what the future holds or why she has made these steps at this time. Perhaps we will never know, but we do hope for continuing improvement and we will be patient.

Through all of the time when we couldn't understand what was happening and with all of the feelings of loss and despair, FMSF was our strength and teacher, so we wanted you to know that unexpected and amazing things can happen even after such a very long time. We hope this will give hope to many others.

A Thankful Mother



My Prayers

On November 1, 1999, my family had the blessing of having our daughter come home after being gone for eight years. I cannot tell you the joy that we have felt or the thanks that we have given. We have continued to work toward fighting against repressed memory therapy and that is the reason I am contacting.

About a year ago, I began a Prayer Chain for parents involved in any way with the horrors of FMS. There are only a few of us, but I think we draw support in knowing that we are praying for our daughters and families. Battles have been waged on every front with the scientific and the legal community. I believe that we must also ask for divine intervention and I feel led to try to have a Day of Prayer across the

country. Please let your readers know about this in case they would like to join us.

National Day of Prayer

Wednesday-November 1, 2000
Sponsored by: A Network of FMS
Families Across America

For those who would like to join in with many others, please observe this day (11/1) as a special time for prayer for all families who have been damaged by dangerous therapy.

Ideas for this event: (1) Gather with other FMS families on this day for prayer, (2) Make it a day of fasting, (3) Join with others at your church for special prayer, (4) Pray privately, (5) Call or e-mail one of the families listed below with your specific need and ask them to pray.

There is no limit to the possibilities for personal or group prayer for your needs and the needs of others. We can be helping others by asking for divine intervention for hurting families...for healing and restoration.

If you would like to participate or receive more information, contact:

Kris Kline
618-466-8951 JKline7579@aol.com

Tom and Joyce Rutherford 417-
753-4878 twrutherford@juno.com

If you would like to share your need, and would like to have someone pray with you:

Jerry & Nickie Bishop IN
317-471-0922 -nbishop99@aol.com

Eunice Campbell Canada
519-822-9729 -campbell@sentex.net.

Dave & Norma Govan CO
970-223-6104 - govan@frie.com

Lee & Avone Holmes - MT
406-443-3189 - lholmes@ixi.net

John & Sherry Swanson MN
612-417-0659 -Sswanson4@aol.com

Dan & Carole LaPorte CA
805-967-8058 -dandl@silcom.com

Ian and Hazel Hutson England
(011-44 -1935 -813331) if calling outside the UK and if calling within the UK 0-1935-813331

Special Letters

Dear Dad,

I only hope it is not too late for you to hear what I need to tell you. Over the years, I have developed profound doubts about the validity of the recovered memory experience. It would have helped if there had been any single shred of evidence, forensic or otherwise, but nothing has ever surfaced other than more anecdotal stories. When everyone from the letter carrier to the bank teller to the local deli operator is a "co-conspirator," it just seems a bit paranoid.

Please know I never never had any malicious intent. Frankly, I spent years in terror of you. It was you who taught me never to tolerate injustice, and I believed to the core of my being that such an injustice had occurred.

I guess better late than never, logic has prevailed.

If you still need to be angry, I completely understand. Right now I feel only a deep sense of loss and grief at a lifetime of friendship destroyed. I am your daughter, and we shared at one time many similarities and interests.

I wish you all the best, send you my deepest regret for us both, and dream of some small healing between us before you leave this earth.

I do love you,
"R"

Dear "R",

Thanks for finally realizing and admitting the horror of the false memory fiasco. I was never angry. I only felt deep sadness and guilt that my child had participated in an insanity that destroyed over 20,000 families in the U.S. and probably many more worldwide. It is a monstrosity. The main culprit is the mental health profession that still has not taken responsibility in spite of millions of dollars in lawsuit claims and the loss of licenses by many practitioners. It will forever be a black mark on that profession.

If you have any desire to make

amends, check into the Court Appointed special Advocate (CASA) or the Guardian ad litem (GAL) programs in your area. There you can help children who have, in fact, been abused, abandoned, and neglected and who have real, vivid, terrible memories of that abuse and who are desperately in need of friendly loving support. I have been in the program for a year and it is very rewarding although heartbreaking at times.



I love you,
Dad.

Dawes - continued from page 2

Finally, I confess that the image is now extraordinarily compelling. I see it in every detail, in Technicolor. Moreover, I do not see myself in the image (which would be a cue that memory is reconstructed—given that we do not view ourselves in our actual daily activities). I just see the rats, dead, with these pink outlines of the blood where they had been slit from neck to anus. After several sessions of such guided imagery, my therapist tells me that I am psychologically ready to face facts. "Every experience we've had—even as very young children—is stored in specific neurons somewhere in our brain. Experiences that we have not had cannot be stored that way; consequently it is not possible to imagine vividly something that didn't occur. If you think it might have happened, and you can imagine it vividly, it happened." I think it is unlikely, but I know that if therapy is to benefit me, I must "believe the therapist." I find it particularly odd that my great-uncle Charlie should be involved, given that he was the most conservative member of my extended family—in fact, the only Republican (and the only person I ever heard of complain about "double taxation" prior to President Ronald Reagan's mentioning this injustice). That, my therapist points out, does not preclude his being a satanic priest. First, it is not impossible that a

Republican is such a priest; second, pretending to be a political conservative is a perfect "cover" for such priesthood. My therapist and I decide that it was really my great aunt and great uncle who ran the cult, with my parents being sort of "fellow travelers."

TO BE CONTINUED in the November/December newsletter.

Robyn Dawes, Ph.D., is a member of the FMSF Advisory Board. He is the Charles J. Queenan Jr. University Professor of psychology in the Department of Social and Decision Sciences at Carnegie Mellon University. Dr. Dawes is the author of *House of Cards* and *Rational Choice in an Uncertain World*.

Long-Term Memories of Fearful Experiences Unstable.

Nader, Schafe and LeDoux, "Fear memories require protein synthesis in the amygdala for reconsolidation after retrieval" *Nature*, August 17, 2000

An August 16 press release from New York University describes the study above that shows that long-term memories of fearful experiences are surprisingly unstable. Long-term memories can be easily altered or disrupted.

The study "demonstrates that the mechanisms mediating memory are much more dynamic than initially thought. Indeed, it may have explanatory powers for phenomena like false memory syndrome. For example, imagining you were at a scene of a crime. Someone asks you if you remember a person with a red jacket there (in reality there was no one with a red jacket there). When you call up the memory of the crime scene it becomes labile, creating an opportunity for suggested or created images of a person with a red jacket to become stored with the original memory undergoing reconsolidation. Therefore, the next time you think of a crime scene there may be someone wearing a red jacket at the scene of the crime and, to the subject, it is completely accurate. On the clinical level, it suggests a way of interfering with memory disorders such as post-traumatic stress disorder where the strength of traumatic memories impairs normal functioning."

Illinois-Wisconsin FMS Society Conference
MOVING ON • • • GETTING ON WITH OUR LIVES
Sunday, October 15, 2000

Sessions:

Moving on for Dear Life: Larry Koszewski, Ph.D. clinical psychologist and a panel of parents; **A Mother's Journey: The Franklin Case:** Leah Franklin, Attorney; **Coping with Legal Aspects:** Martha Churchill, Attorney; **Coming to Grips: Retractor Panel:** Nadean Cool, Laura Pasley, Mary Shanley

Double Tree Hotel, Glenview
1400 Milwaukee Ave
Glenview, IL 60025-1400

Cost: \$40.00 per person, includes lunch, Optional dinner: \$25

Contact Illinois/Wisconsin FMS Society
P.O. Box 3332, Joliet, IL 60434

FREE

"Recovered Memories: Are They Reliable?"

Call or write the FMS Foundation for pamphlets. Be sure to include your address and the number of pamphlets you need.

**ONTARIO AND
QUEBEC
ANNUAL MEETING**
Sat., October 21, 2000
1:00 PM

Featuring
Tana Dineen
who will speak on
**"Taking back our private
lives"**

Location:
The Inn on the Park, Eglinton at
Leslie, Toronto

For details call
Donna at 905-844-2876 or
Paula 705-534-0318

**Important Conference About
Child and Adult False Accusations**

National Child Abuse Defense &
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Ninth International Conference
Child Abuse Allegations:

2000 and Beyond
September 14-16, 2000

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Speakers include: Maggie Bruck,
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Loftus, Ph.D., Richard Ofshe, Ph.D.,
Debra Poole, Ph.D., Robert Rosenthal,
J.D., Carol Tavris, Ph.D.

For more information
Contact 419-865-0513

Legal Websites of Interest

www.findlaw.com
www.legalengine.com
www.accused.com

Back issues of the FMSF Newsletter
to March 1992, the start of FMSF, are
available at www.FMSFonline.org

www.MEMORY AND REALITY.org

or

www.FMSFonline.org

Have you seen the new look of our
webpages? Unit on therapy issues
will be available this summer.

NEW WEBSITE OF INTEREST
Heritage Theatre

www.heritagetheater.com

"We have just recorded the new
play 'Denial' by British playwright
Arnold Wesker. It had its World
Premier recently at the Bristol Old
Vic. The play is a very moving
account of the devastation wrecked
upon a very typical British family,
after a daughter falsely accused her
father of sexual abuse."

The Heritage Theatre website
provides information about the play
and about the problem of FMS.

www.heritagetheater.com

Web Sites of Interest

www.StopBadTherapy.com

Contains phone numbers of professional regu-
latory boards in all 50 states

www.IllinoisFMS.org

Illinois-Wisconsin FMS Society

www.afma.asn.au

Australian False Memory Association.

www.bfms.org.uk

British False Memory Society

www.geocities.com/retractor

This site is run by Laura Pasley (retractor)
[www.geocities.com/~therapyletters/in-
dex.htm](http://www.geocities.com/~therapyletters/index.htm)

This site is run by Deb David (retractor)
www.sirs.com/uptonbooks/index.htm
Upton Books

Having trouble locating books about
the recovered memory
phenomenon?

Recovered Memory Bookstore
[www.angelfire.com/tx/recovered-
memories/](http://www.angelfire.com/tx/recovered-
memories/)

Did you move?
Do you have a new area code?
Remember to inform the
FMSF Business Office

CONTACTS & MEETINGS - UNITED STATES

ALABAMA

Montgomery
Marge (334) 244-7891

ALASKA

Kathleen (907) 337-7821

ARKANSAS

Little Rock
Al & Lela (870) 363-4368

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Sacramento
Joanne & Gerald (916) 933-3655
San Francisco & North Bay - (bi-MO)
Gideon (415) 389-0254 or
Charles (415) 984-6626(am);
(415) 435-9618(pm)
San Francisco & South Bay
Eric (408) 245-4493
East Bay Area
Judy (925) 376-8221
Central Coast
Carole (805) 967-8058
Central Orange County
Chris & Alan (949) 733-2925
Covina Area - 1st Mon. (quarterly)
@7:30pm
Floyd & Libby (626) 330-2321
San Diego Area
Dee (760) 941-4816

COLORADO

Colorado Springs
Doris (719) 488-9738
CONNECTICUT
S. New England -
Earl (203) 329-8365 or
Paul (203) 458-9173
FLORIDA
Dade/Broward
Madeline (954) 966-4FMS
Boca/Delray - 2nd & 4th Thurs (MO) @1pm
Helen (561) 498-8684
Central Florida - Please call for mtg. time
John & Nancy (352) 750-5446
Tampa Bay Area
Bob & Janet (727) 856-7091

GEORGIA

Atlanta
Wallie & Jill (770) 971-8917
ILLINOIS
Chicago & Suburbs - 1st Sun. (MO)
Eileen (847) 985-7693 or
Liz & Roger (847) 827-1056
Peoria
Bryant & Lynn (309) 674-2767

INDIANA

Indiana Assn. for Responsible Mental
Health Practices
Nickie (317) 471-0922; fax (317) 334-9839
Pat (219) 489-9987
IOWA
Des Moines - 2nd Sat. (MO) @11:30am
Lunch
Betty & Gayle (515) 270-6976

KANSAS

Wichita - Meeting as called
Pat (785) 738-4840

KENTUCKY

Louisville - Last Sun. (MO) @ 2pm
Bob (502) 367-1838

MAINE

Rumbold -
Carolyn (207) 364-8891
Portland - 4th Sun. (MO)
Wally & Bobby (207) 878-9812

MASSACHUSETTS/NEW ENGLAND

Andover - 2nd Sun. (MO) @ 1pm
Frank (978) 263-9795

MICHIGAN

Grand Rapids Area-Jenison - 1st Mon.
(MO)
Bill & Marge (616) 383-0382
Greater Detroit Area -
Nancy (248) 642-8077
Ann Arbor
Martha (734) 439-8119

MINNESOTA

Terry & Collette (507) 642-3630
Dan & Joan (651) 631-2247

MISSOURI

Kansas City - Meeting as called
Pat (785)-738-4840
St. Louis Area - call for meeting time
Karen (314) 432-8789
Springfield - 4th Sat. Apr. Jul, Oct
@12:30pm
Tom (417) 753-4878
Roxie (417) 781-2058

MONTANA

Lee & Avone (406) 443-3189

NEW JERSEY

Sally (609) 927-5343 (Southern)
Nancy (973) 729-1433 (Northern)

NEW MEXICO

Albuquerque - 2nd Sat. (BI-MO) @1 pm
Southwest Room - Presbyterian Hospital
Maggie (505) 662-7521(after 6:30pm) or
Sy (505) 758-0726

NEW YORK

Westchester, Rockland, etc.
Barbara (914) 761-3627
Upstate/Albany Area
Elaine (518) 399-5749

NORTH CAROLINA

Susan (704) 538-7202

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Bob (513) 541-0816 or (513) 541-5272
Cleveland
Bob & Carole (440) 356-4544

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Oklahoma City
Dee (405) 942-0531 or
Tulsa
Jim (918) 582-7363

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John (503) 297-7719

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Paul & Betty (717) 691-7660
Pittsburgh
Rick & Renee (412) 563-5509
Montrose
John (570) 278-2040

Wayne (includes S. NJ)
Jim & Jo (610) 783-0396

TENNESSEE

Nashville - Wed. (MO) @1pm
Kate (615) 665-1160

TEXAS

Houston
Jo or Beverly (713) 464-8970
El Paso
Mary Lou (915) 591-0271

UTAH

Kelth (801) 467-0669

VERMONT

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notices MUST be in writing and sent
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